

REMARKS

A. Amendment

Claims 1, 5, 9, and 11 are amended, and claims 2–4, 6–8, 10, and 12–25 are cancelled. Claims 26–29 are new. Claims 1, 5, 9, 11, and 26–29 are presented for consideration.

B. Rejections

In the Office Action dated August 23, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1–25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent no. 7,149,408 to Kobayashi. The rejections are traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested in view of the following.

This application relates to methods and apparatus for editing audiovisual content, where editing can include varying the rate at which video frames are played back. (*See, e.g.*, Specification at 29, lines 2–23.) Claim 1 reads:

1. An apparatus for controlling an image display comprising:
 - a determining unit configured to determine whether or not material data is combined with frame rate information as associated information; and
 - a controller configured to control the image display to display said material data that is combined with the frame rate information as the associated information along a time axis in a reproduction order in a frame image representation region, the width of the frame image representation region being altered according to a reproduction time calculated based on the reproduction speed.

This differs fundamentally from the methods and apparatus discussed in Kobayashi. According to Kobayashi, individual frames that make up a motion picture appear in a grid. (*See,*

e.g., Fig. 3.) Each row of the grid represents a time interval called a “display unit,” and each row has one column for each frame presented during the display unit. (See col. 4, lines 17–26.) Editing a motion picture, as discussed in Kobayashi, involves direct manipulation of frames, individually and in groups. (See col. 3, lines 27–31.)

But the reproduction time, according to Kobayashi, is not calculated based on the reproduction speed and does not affect the width or other dimensions of a frame image representation region. Rather, each row of the grid corresponds to a fixed unit of time (see col. 4, lines 36–43), and the reproduction time corresponds to the number of potentially displayable rows (see col., lines 52–60.). The reproduction speed is associated with the number of frames in each row. (See, e.g., col. 6, lines 31–52.) Kobayashi thus fails to disclose or suggest, among other things, a controller configured to control the image display to display material data along a time axis in a reproduction order in a frame image representation region, *the width of the frame image representation region being altered according to a reproduction time calculated based on the reproduction speed*, as set forth in claim 1.

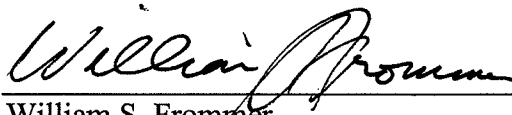
For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Independent claims 28 and 29 include limitations that correspond to the limitations of claim 1 discussed above, and it is respectfully submitted that these claims are therefore also allowable for the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 5, 9, 11, and 26–27 each depend directly or indirectly on independent claim 1, and it is further submitted that these claims are therefore allowable based on their inclusion of allowable subject matter.

C. **Conclusion**

For these reasons, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims. To expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the applicant’s undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William S. Frommer", written over a horizontal line.

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